National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

E-Government Act Implementation Update

October 14, 2008

NASA is pleased to submit our annual E-Government Act report as required by the E-Government Act of 2002 (Pub. L. No. 107-347) (Act). This report has been developed per guidance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) memorandum for Chief Information Officers (CIOs), "FY 2008 E-Government Act Reporting Instructions," dated September 2, 2008. NASA continues to make a priority of ensuring that the provisions of the E-Government Act are implemented within the Agency, and has historically been a leader among Federal agencies in the application of e-government to increase the efficiency of NASA operations and to ensure that the public enjoys improved access to the Agency's on-line information resources.

Executive Summary – NASA FY 2008 E-Government Act Report

NASA continues to make a priority of ensuring that the provisions of the E-Government Act are implemented within the Agency and that NASA is a leader among Federal agencies in the application of online government. In 2008 NASA raised its E-Gov scorecard to Green in Progress and to Yellow in Status. The Agency remains actively engaged in 16 of the original 24 E-Gov initiatives, plus the E-Authentication crosscutting initiative. In addition, NASA is currently implementing eight of the nine Federal Lines of Business initiatives. The Agency's strategic intent is to pursue an integrated E-Government solution that seamlessly ties together business applications, supports government mandates such as the President's Management Agenda, and supports internal NASA initiatives. For Section 1 of the 2008 E-Gov Act Report, NASA provides overviews of two high-profile Agency initiatives: the Property, Plant and Equipment system and NASA Operational Messaging and Directory.

The NASA Property, Plant, and Equipment (PP&E) System is used to identify, control, and account for Government-owned equipment acquired by, or in use by, NASA and its onsite NASA contractors. The 2008 deployment of PP&E provides best practices accounting of taxpayer funding for existing property and disseminates real-time asset data to decision-makers who allocate resources to ongoing projects and future requirements. Implementation of the NASA PP&E System allowed for the replacement of two mainframe legacy systems for an annual cost savings of $4.2M. Additional PP&E benefits include a more accurate, timely valuation of the Agency's property, plant, and equipment, improved audit trail of capitalized property, plant, and equipment, standardization of NASA-held and Contractor-held property management processes, and reduced operational costs.

The NASA Operational Messaging and Directory (NOMAD) project was created to provide an integrated messaging and calendaring solution that allowed NASA to communicate as a single entity via a unified and secure collaborative environment. Completed in 2008, the project goal was to design and implement an Agency messaging system that could combine both the civil servant and substantial contractor personnel into an easily accessible directory. NOMAD's success also enabled the timely delivery of an HSPD-12 implementation for badging and identity management at NASA. While the primary focus of NOMAD was on the broad range of benefits to be gained from having an integrated messaging and calendaring environment, by consolidating the Agency's groupware services into a discreetly managed organization, numerous cost benefits have accrued. Some examples include the leveraging of a single help desk for all messaging issues and the savings provided from decommissioning hundreds of different e-mail servers throughout the Agency.

In Section 2 of the report, NASA demonstrates its commitment to making government information available on the Agency's public website. NASA's Information Resources Management (IRM) Strategic Plan and EA Transition Plan are each posted online, serving as communication vehicles for sharing the Agency's alignment and transition strategy. NASA's Office of Public Affairs determines which Government information is made available and accessible to the public through the NASA Web Portal. In addition, NASA provides a link for the public to access our final determinations, priorities, and schedules on its main webpage (www.nasa.gov), pages accessible to the public with URL's that end in nasa.gov, and each of the NASA Center's web pages.

For those seeking information on NASA records, the Agency has a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) website that outlines the process, including a "FOIA Requester Service Center" with separate electronic reading rooms containing records that have been previously released. For scientists and researchers, NASA has several public websites that disseminate a wide range of research and development (R&D) information to the public, including the NASA Technical Report Server, the NASA Solicitation and Proposal Integrated Review and Evaluation System, the Human Research Program Task Book, the Earth Observing System, and the Scientific and Technical Information Program.

Disseminating information about its research and activities has been part of NASA's core mission since the Agency's inception; the primary format at NASA for formal agency agreements with external entities is the Space Act Agreement. The Agency engages in a wide variety of strategic partnerships, grouped broadly into cross-NASA, interagency, and international collaborations of various types. Some of the recent, high profile agreements include partners such as the Walt Disney Company, Google, Yahoo!, the Internet Archive of San Francisco, and the Imagine Nation Museum.

Section 1 – Implementation of Electronic Government Initiatives

Section 1 of the report describes two of NASA's electronic government initiatives: the Property, Plant and Equipment (PP&E) system and the NASA Operational Messaging and Directory NOMAD. These two overviews provide:

- A description of the initiatives, the methodology for their selection, and how these initiatives are transforming NASA operations;
- Explanations on how NASA maintains an ongoing dialogue with interested parties to find innovative ways to use information technology for the initiatives;
- Identification of external partners who collaborate with NASA on the initiatives;
- Identification of improved performance by tracking performance measures supporting NASA objectives and strategic goals;
- Quantification of the cost savings and cost avoidance achieved through implementing the initiatives;
- Explanations on how these initiatives ensure the availability of Government information and services for those without access to the Internet and for those with disabilities; and
- Explanations on how these projects apply effective capital planning and investment control procedures.

Section 1 concludes with a description of the established business processes NASA has in place for the ongoing process of identification of initiatives.

NASA's strategic intent is to pursue an integrated E-Government solution that seamlessly ties together business applications, supports government mandates such as the President's Management Agenda (PMA), and supports internal NASA initiatives such as successfully retiring the Space Shuttle and developing a capability to return to the Moon. For the 2008 E-Gov Act Report, NASA is excited to provide brief overviews of two initiatives for which the Agency has recently completed implementation: Property, Plant and Equipment system and NOMAD.

NASA's Property, Plant and Equipment System

The NASA Property, Plant, and Equipment (PP&E) System was deployed at all NASA Installations in May 2008, and will be used throughout the Agency to identify, control, and account for Government-owned equipment acquired by, or in use by, NASA and its onsite NASA contractors. The PP&E System will capture the tracking of assets and equipment in a single Agency-wide data source, allowing improved resource allocation and formulation processes across all NASA Centers. Through standardized processes, the integration of asset tracking and property accounting functions will allow transparency of acquisition, transfer, or disposal throughout the life cycle for capital assets. By removing both manual and duplicative electronic methods of asset management, the project is fully aligned with E-Government goals.

PP&E addresses performance gaps from prior NASA audits related to financial and asset management, addressing the lack of integration between current logistics and financial systems and the lack of sufficient internal control policies and procedures as they relate to NASA equipment. The implementation of PP&E provides best practices accounting of taxpayer funding for existing property and disseminates real-time asset data to decision-makers who allocate resources to ongoing projects and

future requirements. The NASA PP&E System is an Agency-wide tool hosted at the Integrated Enterprise Management Program (IEMP) Competency Center at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center and consists of the following components: SAP Enterprise Resources Planning (ERP) System; N-PROP (the web based front end access to SAP), DSPL (the disposal component), and Business Warehouse (BW). The SAP component contains the following modules: Asset Accounting and Plant Maintenance.

Like all NASA IT investments, the NASA PP&E System follows the Agency's capital planning guidelines. The system was also thoroughly tested to ensure it could be used by those individuals with disabilities – otherwise known as Section 508 compliance. In addition, NASA maintains an ongoing dialogue with Agency stakeholders through the chartered Functional Control Board (FCB), comprised of a Headquarters chairman and Center Business Process Leads (CBPLs). This board is responsible for identification and resolution of operational issues throughout the system's life cycle.

A formal performance measurement plan was developed by the PP&E Project team and was reviewed and approved by the system functional owner prior to system deployment. This plan covers all of NASA's Agency-level business drivers and project functional drivers documented in the Project business case and IAM PP&E Project Scope Document. The Project's objectives and expected benefits are described in the below table:

Table 1. PP&E Project Objectives and Expected Benefits

#	Objectives	Expected Benefits
1	Integrated processes between PP&E logistics and PP&E financial.	• More accurate and timely valuation of PP&E. • Improved audit trail for capitalized PP&E. • Reduced manual processes among multiple systems. • Standardization for both government-held and contractor-held data and processes.
2	Improved usability and operability.	• Reduced effort to support the operational costs. • Improved data consistency by eliminating redundant data across multiple systems. • Reduced need for manual postings and processes.
3	Improved PP&E financial management.	• Improved financial audit trail supporting financial statements. • Improved capitalization and depreciation processes. • Improved work-in-process (WIP) valuation for NASA-held and contractor-held PP&E.
4	Improved PP&E logistics management.	• Improved re-utilization of assets enabling minimized procurement activities. • Improved physical inventory reporting of all accountable property. • Reduced loss-initiated survey process for lost, stolen, or damaged PP&E.

During system development a formal benchmarking initiative was conducted and led to a partnership with the Department of Energy, Oak Ridge Laboratory, Tennessee. Another associated initiative was the

development of a Federal Asset Sales Agreement with the General Services Administration (GSA), and a resultant automated interface was developed between the NASA PP&E System and GSA's "GSAXCESS" for government excess property screening and processing.

In terms of benefits to the Agency, implementation of the NASA PP&E System allowed for the replacement of two mainframe legacy systems – the NASA Equipment Management System (NEMS), and the NASA Property Disposal Management System (NPDMS) – for an annual cost savings of $4.2M. Other measurable benefits of PP&E include: (1) more accurate, timely valuation of the Agency's property, plant, and equipment; (2) improved valuation, capitalization, and depreciation processes; (3) improved audit trail of capitalized property, plant, and equipment; (4) standardization of NASA-held and Contractor-held property management processes; (5) elimination of manual processes; (6) and reduced operational costs.

The NASA Operational Messaging and Directory

The NASA Administrator directed the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) in 2004 to transform how the Agency provided IT services to its workforce. At the heart of the memo was the direction to provide an integrated messaging and calendaring solution allowing NASA to communicate as a single entity. The NASA Operational Messaging and Directory (NOMAD) project was created to implement this vision. By spring of 2008, all ten NASA Centers had been migrated to a single system providing a unified and secure collaborative environment. For the first time, all of NASA's civil servant and contractor workforce are available to the public through a centrally managed directory and an @NASA.GOV email address. In addition, the NASA user community is able to access email from anywhere via Outlook Web Access (OWA).

The project goal was to design and implement an Agency messaging system that could combine both the civil servant and substantial contractor personnel into an easily accessible directory. Additionally, the system needed to provide that access from a very mobile and heterogeneous user environment in a global setting. NOMAD was successful in creating a unified directory containing every badged civil servant and contractor for the Agency. This directory also enabled the timely delivery of an HSPD-12 implementation for badging and identity management at NASA. With security being a prime focus for the federal government, NOMAD equipped the Agency with the ability to centrally monitor and control the messaging traffic in and out of the Agency to better protect our IT assets.

To maintain an ongoing dialogue with interested parties, the NOMAD project holds annual face-to-face meetings inviting representation from each NASA Center, contractor project leads, and outside vendors for an interactive session. As for external collaborators, both the Industry Advisory Council and the Federal CIO's Council have provided numerous opportunities for idea exchange.

NASA established service-level objectives for NOMAD at the beginning of the project, and these measures undergo annual reviews. Performance improvement is also monitored via quarterly user satisfaction surveys, which seek to understand project successes as well as areas for improvement. Approximately 25% of the user population is polled during these surveys, thus allowing the entire NASA population to provide feedback over the course of each year.

The primary focus of NOMAD was on the broad range of benefits to be gained from having an integrated messaging and calendaring environment. Nonetheless, by consolidating the Agency's groupware services into a discreetly managed organization, numerous cost benefits have accrued. Leveraging a single help desk for all messaging issues, regardless of which Center a user resides, allows NASA to benefit from this desktop consolidation effort. Additional cost savings have been provided through the decommissioning of literally hundreds of different e-mail servers throughout the Agency that were operated and managed by individuals whose job was not IT, allowing them to focus on their core capabilities. The consolidation provided the OCIO opportunities for fiscal oversight and portfolio management in line with the NASA Enterprise Architecture that had been previously unavailable.

All systems implemented by NOMAD have been implemented with a sensitivity to our disabled personnel and are fully 508 compliant. Given NASA's diverse workforce, providing a means for *every* user to take advantage of the collaborative environment through desktops, laptops, and PDAs has been a constant focus. In addition, all of the major investments in the NOMAD project have been run through the Strategic Investment Board, the Information Technology Program Management Board, and the Center CIO community to make sure any significant changes fit into the NASA strategic direction and budgetary allowances.

NASA's Process for the Identification of Initiatives

In 2008, NASA invested approximately $1.6B billion in Information Technology (IT) assets and services. The success of these IT investments directly influenced the ability of organizations within NASA to fulfill mission goals and execute business plans. For example, all current E-Government plans and initiatives are all heavily dependent upon their underlying IT investments.

Recognizing both the importance of IT investments to the organization and its role in supporting the success of these investments, the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) is engaged in an ongoing effort to establish, maintain, and support an IT investment analysis and decision-making environment. Two key components of this environment are executive decision-makers and repeatable processes:

- Executive decision-makers: The Governance structure addresses multiple levels of review, which are based on the strategic significance and investment value. Thresholds have been established that dictate formal governance involvement from Center through the organizational hierarchy to the top management levels within NASA.
- Processes: Capital Planning and Investment Control (CPIC) is NASA's primary process for (1) making decisions about which initiatives and systems NASA should invest in and (2) creating and analyzing the associated rationale for these investments.

NASA's IT governance structure supports disciplined processes to help ensure the success of the overall IT transformation effort, the alignment of IT solutions with mission needs, and that ongoing IT services meet customers needs. To meet these governance needs, the CIO chartered the following three boards:

- The IT Strategy and Investment Board (SIB) makes decisions regarding IT strategy, investments (prioritization and selection), Enterprise Architecture, and NASA-wide IT policies-processes. SIB members include senior level members from Mission Directorates, Mission Support Offices, and

Centers.

- The IT Program Management Board (PMB) provides executive oversight and makes decisions regarding application and infrastructure projects to ensure that investments approved by the IT Strategy and Investment Board stay on track during formulation and implementation.
- The IT Management Board (ITMB) makes decisions regarding management of the IT technical environment at NASA to implement IT strategy, policy and investment initiatives, including configuration management, integration, and performance of IT systems.

NASA's OCIO is responsible for ensuring that the Agency follows a structured and integrated approach to managing IT resources. Through this approach, the OCIO ensures that all IT investments align with the NASA mission and support business needs, while minimizing risks and maximizing returns throughout the investment's lifecycle. Investment and resources management processes are instrumental in meeting the CIO's IT financial management strategic initiative. The ultimate outcome of these processes is increased visibility into IT budgeting and spending, and the ability to fund IT services for NASA's users.

Section 2 – Agency Information Management Activities

Section 2 of the report provides information about how NASA makes government information available on the Agency's public website, including link(s) to NASA's website where the information is located.

NASA's Information Resources Management (IRM) Strategic Plan and EA Transition Plan:

Information from the NASA Information Resources Management (IRM) Strategic Plan is posted online at: http://www.nasa.gov/offices/ocio/home/index.html. Updated in September 2007, the Agency's IRM Strategic Plan is in alignment with NASA's vision, mission, and strategic goals, and serves as a communication vehicle for sharing NASA's strategy both internal and external to the Agency.

NASA's EA Transition Plan is posted online at: http://www.nasa.gov/offices/ocio/home/index.html. Version 2.1 was updated in February 2008, and includes the entire Agency as the scope of the NASA transition strategy. The Plan reflects segment architectures associated with NASA's Lines of Business (LoBs) and mission support cross-cutting segments within the agency.

NASA's Final determinations, priorities, and schedules, including information dissemination product catalogs, directories, inventories, and any other management tools used to improve the dissemination of and access to NASA's information by the public:

NASA provides a link for the public to access our final determinations, priorities, and schedules on its main webpage (www.nasa.gov), pages accessible to the public with URL's that end in nasa.gov, and each of the NASA Center's web pages. The link is called "NASA Information-Dissemination Product Inventories, Priorities and Schedules" and takes viewers to http://www.nasa.gov/about/contact/information_inventories_schedules.html. This link has been propagated throughout most of NASA's public web pages. Members of the public can provide input into how NASA disseminates information through the Web portal by using the "comments" link on the Contact NASA page (http://www.nasa.gov/about/contact/index.html).

NASA's Office of Public Affairs determines which Government information is made available and accessible to the public through the NASA Web Portal, http://www.nasa.gov. The Office of Public Affairs releases information based on its news value and interest to the media and public. Final determination of which material will be released is based on the judgment and professional expertise of the Director of the Multimedia Division, the NASA News Chief and the Internet Services Manager. As the release of this information is timed to its news value and is highly variable in content, the Agency does not maintain a fixed schedule or list of priorities. In terms of final determinations, priorities, and schedules available for public notice and comment, the public and the news media provide feedback to the News and Multimedia Division on a daily basis via telephone and e-mail, making a formal comment period unnecessary.

NASA is committed to not only sharing information with the public, but also ensuring the quality of the information. NASA has several on-going processes for ensuring information quality, including but not limited to editorial reviews, compliance reviews, content reviews, and peer reviews. NASA has also established administrative mechanisms by which affected persons can obtain, where appropriate, timely

correction of information maintained and disseminated by NASA if the information does not comply with NASA's quality standards. Information about NASA's commitment to quality of scientific and technical information, including the relevant processes can be found at http://www.sti.nasa.gov/nasaonly/qualinfo.html, "NASA Guidelines for Quality of Information."

NASA's FOIA handbook, the link of NASA's primary FOIA website, and the website link where frequent requests for records are made available to the public:

- NASA's FOIA Handbook: http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/pao/FOIA/EO_FOIA_Ref_Guide.pdf
- NASA's Primary FOIA website: http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/pao/FOIA/agency/
- NASA's Website for Frequent Requests: *(same URL as above).* Additionally, each NASA FOIA Requester Service Center has and maintains separate electronic reading rooms, which contain records posted that have been previously released.

NASA has been proactively complying with the "Electronic Freedom of Information Act Amendments of 1996." In past years the Agency set up a specific Electronic FOIA (E-FOIA) Reading Room for posting documents relating to the Columbia accident. Releasable portions of several NASA contracts have also been posted in the reading room. These and other Agency records have been electronically posted for: (1) meeting the multiple requests for similar records; or (2) the anticipation of public interest for agency records.

It should be noted that continued efforts are underway regarding a planned web site improvement that will focus on the consolidation of NASA's decentralized E-FOIA Reading Rooms. This will provide a one-stop shop for the public to find all electronically posted Agency records, which have been placed in the public reading room, in accordance with the E-FOIA Amendments of 1996 (as described in the above paragraph). NASA is also redesigning the method for indexing those documents into a subject matter + alpha order system, which will reduce the public search time to seek responsive Agency records already processed, under the FOIA. Additionally, in accordance with our published FOIA Improvement Plan, NASA procured software and is currently working on the configuration of a web-based FOIA database, which will allow the public to obtain information on and track their FOIA request on line.

A list of NASA's public websites disseminating research and development (R&D) information to the public, describing for each whether the website provides the public information about federally funded R&D activities and/or provides the results of Federal research:

One of the NASA Portal sites, http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forresearchers/features/index.html, functions as a valuable landing page for scientists, researchers, technologists, and the general public to discover how NASA partners with industry, academia, and federal / state / regional / local entities to perform breakthrough research, develop cutting edge technologies, and incorporate them into commercially viable products. From this site the public can locate information about federally funded R&D activities as well as the results of Federal research. This landing page also contains links and descriptions to many of NASA's R&D websites described in the following paragraphs. Additional Agency research opportunities and links are can be found at the site: http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forresearchers/researchbizops/index.html

NASA Technical Report Server (NTRS), http://ntrs.nasa.gov/search.jsp, is a comprehensive source of NASA's current and historical aerospace research and engineering results. NASA's R&D and missions produce a wealth of important scientific and technical information that is essential to the Agency, to U.S. aerospace companies and educational institutions, and to the Nation. The NTRS is an integral part of gathering and disseminating this mission-related information. NTRS promotes the dissemination of NASA Scientific and Technical (STI) to the widest audience possible by allowing NTRS information be harvested by sites using the Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH).

NTRS is sponsored by the NASA Scientific and Technical Information (STI) Program Office (http://www.sti.nasa.gov), which supports the acquisition, organization, management, and dissemination, and long-term retention and safeguarding of STI relevant to NASA's research and development and missions. The purpose of the STI Program is to: help ensure that NASA research is cost-effective by providing scientists and engineers with access to existing NASA and worldwide research results; support the work of the U.S. aerospace industries; and share the results of NASA's research with the world, as appropriate.

NASA's NSPIRES website (http://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/) provides the public with information about current and past federally funded research opportunities. Supporting research in science and technology is an important part of NASA's overall mission, and NASA solicits this research via the NSPIRES website (as well as on www.Grants.gov) through the release of various research announcements in a wide range of science and technology disciplines. Researchers can help NASA achieve national research objectives by submitting research proposals and conducting awarded research. This site facilitates the search for NASA research opportunities. On the NSPIRES site, the public can: search for and view open, closed, past, and future NASA research announcements; and view the list of proposals selected to conduct NASA research.

The NASA Human Research Program Task Book (http://peer1.nasaprs.com/Publication/welcome.cfm) is an online database of research projects supported by the Human Research Program (HRP) and Exploration Technology Development Program (ETDP) within NASA's Advanced Capabilities Division (ACD). Research projects within the National Space Biomedical Research Institute (NSBRI) are also covered. Information includes project descriptions, annual research results, research impacts, and a listing of publications resulting from this NASA-funded research.

Research results pertaining to the Earth Observing System (EOS) can also be located at http://eospso.gsfc.nasa.gov/eos_homepage/data_services.php. EOS is a major component of NASA's Earth-Sun System Missions. The mission includes a series of satellites, a science component, and a data system supporting a coordinated series of polar-orbiting and low inclination satellites for long-term global observations of the land surface, biosphere, solid Earth, atmosphere, and oceans. EOS is enabling an improved understanding of the Earth as an integrated system. The EOS Project Science Office (EOSPSO) is committed to bringing program information and resources to program scientists and the general public alike.

In terms of Federal research and development activities, NASA research and development (R&D) information is available through numerous external websites, including:

- National Technical Information Service (NTIS) (http://www.ntis.gov/) is the largest central resource for government-funded scientific, technical, engineering, and business related information available today. NTIS provides businesses, universities, and the public timely access to well over 3 million publications covering over 350 subject areas.
- Research.gov (www.research.gov) is a collaborative partnership of Federal research-oriented agencies working together for the ultimate benefit of the research community. NASA partnered in 2008 with the National Science Foundation, who is leading this important initiative. The Research Spending and Results Service lets Congress, the general public, and the broader research community easily search and find grant award information for NASA and NSF in one place. Research Spending and Results is a search capability that provides increased transparency about how NASA research grant dollars are being spent and what results are being achieved. Users can quickly and easily search for detailed award information, including award abstracts and publication citations. This service currently makes grant award information searchable for NASA and NSF, and Research.gov plans to make award information available for other Federal research agencies in the future.

An inventory describing formal Agency agreements with external entities complementing NASA's information dissemination program, briefly explaining how each agreement improves the access to and dissemination of government information to the public:

Disseminating information about its research and activities has been part of NASA's core mission since the Agency's inception. The National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 (as amended) directs the Agency to "provide for the widest practicable and appropriate dissemination of information concerning its activities and the results thereof." These information dissemination activities occur in a wide variety of forums at NASA, from the publication of research to the NASA Portal and press releases to educational outreach.

The primary format for formal agency agreements at NASA is the Space Act Agreement. The National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, also known as the "Space Act," provides our authority to enter into agreements with other U.S. government agencies, commercial entities, academic institutions and other organizations. In particular, the Space Act authorizes and encourages NASA to enter into partnerships that help fulfill our mission. As a result, the Agency engages in a wide variety of strategic partnerships, grouped broadly into cross-NASA, interagency, and international collaborations of various types.

In past years, NASA has compiled lists of active agreements manually and from separate tracking systems throughout the various NASA Centers and Mission Directorates. Currently the Agency utilizes its Space Act Agreement Maker (SAAM) system to facilitate common business practices in the agreement process, as well as to consolidate and centralize the management of agreements through a common web-based solution. This approach allows for a more efficient and consistent image to our external partners, while allowing NASA to efficiently manage its Space Act Agreements.

SAAM provides a single web-based resource where information about all NASA agreements can be placed. NASA researchers, technical managers, and project/program managers will be able to initiate agreements which can then be managed by centralized coordination personnel (Agreement Managers).

SAAM enables quicker turnaround and a consistent partnership process among NASA Centers, Programs and Projects. Now that it's fully implemented, it is also used as a tool by the Agency, Mission Directorates and Centers to effectively communicate the contents of all the various agreements currently active across the Agency with reporting and data mining capabilities. Although no formal decision has been made at this time, one possibility is to make this web-based resource available to the general public.

NASA publicizes all of its major Space Act agreements that promote increased information sharing. Some specific recent examples of NASA agreements to improve the dissemination of Agency information to the general public include:

- NASA has renewed, thru a competitive selection process, the innovative agreement with Yahoo! Inc. to help bring NASA TV coverage including the Space Shuttle and International Space Station Missions and Expeditions to millions of Internet users through the NASA Web Portal. Yahoo! provides live streaming of NASA TV mission coverage in Windows Media format as an official online host of NASA TV footage. Yahoo! continues to maintain the expand reach of the portal's available bandwidth by more than 30 times. Under the terms of the agreement, Yahoo! will provide a co-branded Windows Media Player that will stream the mission's official online video on the Web sites of both NASA and Yahoo!
- NASA and Internet Archive of San Francisco have partnered to scan, archive and manage the agency's vast collection of photographs, historic film and video. The imagery will be available through the Internet and free to the public, historians, scholars, students, and researchers. Currently, NASA has more than 20 major imagery collections online. With this partnership, those collections will be made available through a single, searchable "one-stop-shop" archive. The partnership is through a non-exclusive Space Act agreement to help NASA consolidate and digitize its imagery archives at no cost to the agency.
- NASA Ames Research Center and Google signed a Space Act Agreement that formally establishes a relationship to work together on a variety of challenging technical problems ranging from large-scale data management and massively distributed computing, to human-computer interfaces. As the first in a series of joint collaborations, Google and Ames will focus on making the most useful of NASA's information available on the Internet. Real-time weather visualization and forecasting, high-resolution 3-D maps of the moon and Mars, real-time tracking of the International Space Station and the shuttle will be explored in the future.
- NASA and Imagine Nation Museum partnered to communicate the benefits of the U.S. space program to visitors to the museum located in Bristol, Connecticut. This collaboration provides the opportunity to inform, reach out, and educate the youth of America about the future of space exploration, and shows the value NASA has added in their daily lives. Leveraging NASA's video and imagery archives, the Imagination Museum created a children's movie theater dedicated to showing how ESPN uses satellite technology, how NASA has contributed, and where NASA is headed in the future. The exhibit includes a 5-minute movie/experience, NASA imagery approaching and exiting the theater, and content related software used in children's interactive computer consoles.
- NASA partnered with The Walt Disney Company to collaborate on multiple educational and public outreach programs and activities to improve the access to and dissemination of government information to the public.
  One such activity entailed a collaboration relating to Space Shuttle Mission

STS-124, including live press conferences, hands-on educational activities, demonstrations, and exhibits. This collaboration was aimed at fostering a better understanding and appreciation of NASA's current and future missions, and encouraging children and young adults to pursue their dreams by developing an interest in exploration and discovery as envisioned by Disney's *Where Dreams Come True* communication platform.

As part of this activity, NASA and Disney teamed up to fly an 8-inch *Buzz Lightyear* toy on STS-124 and used that as a platform for initiatives such as developing educational games and downloadable worksheets for NASA's Kids Club for posting on the NASA Portal and Disney websites

Another NASA-Disney partnership activity involved leveraging the strengths of the two organizations to present NASA's missions, programs and results to the public in an inspirational, educational and engaging manner. One specific project under this activity related to the Disney release, "WALL•E." Using the premise of the movie and the natural ties to NASA projects, such as the rover and robotics programs, space exploration and Hubble Space Telescope, NASA and Disney intend to inspire, educate and engage the public about NASA's missions and results. Some of the tasks under this project are as follows:

1. Disney will create and produce public service announcements (PSAs) that commemorate NASA's 50th anniversary and that focus on NASA missions and STEM concepts.
2. Disney will integrate WALL•E characters into STEM education products and materials developed for formal education, museums, science centers, NASA Visitor Centers and the general public.
3. Disney will create Movie Surfer Vignettes from interviews with NASA scientists and engineers for broadcast on Disney broadcast outlets.
4. Disney will collaborate with NASA on developing a new mini-website that builds WALL•E and related educational content into the NASA Kids Club website.

- NASA entered into several other agreements with various partners aimed at engaging the public in celebration of NASA's 50th anniversary. Partners include The Disney Company, McNeill Designs for Brighter Minds, The Discovery Channel, the Smithsonian Institute, and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

An inventory that describes NASA's NARA-approved records schedules(s) or the link to the publicly-posted records schedules(s), and a brief explanation of NASA's progress to implement NARA Bulletin 2006-02. For the brief explanation please report the number of systems for which a record schedule was submitted to NARA in FY 2008 and the number of systems still requiring records schedules:

It is NASA policy to manage its information resources and records, including electronic records, in accordance with the requirements of 44 U.S.C. Chapter 31; 44 U.S.C. 3506; 36 CFR, Chapter XII, Subchapter B, Records Management; and OMB Circular A-130.

Descriptions of all NASA's records and their retention schedules are contained in NPR 1441. NASA Records Retention Schedules (NRRS) posted at http://nodis3.gsfc.nasa.gov/displayDir.cfm?t=NPR&c=1441&s=1D. All schedule items are approved by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

NASA submitted one new schedule request for NARA approval in FY2008. In working toward the September 2009 milestone specified in NARA Bulletin 2006-02, NASA is finalizing an inventory of all its electronic information systems and verifying the existence of proper retention schedules. When this is complete, the Agency will develop required new and revised schedules, and submit them to NARA for approval. Because of the nature of the process, it will be the end of the second quarter of FY2009 when NASA will have a firm knowledge of the number of systems that still require new retention schedules.